

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

- 1) My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, which is my full name.
- 2) I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Deck Spacer

the specification of which is attached hereto. I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

- 3) I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this patent application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 (a).

- 4) No application to patent this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States prior to the date of this patent application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the following as my agent to prosecute this patent application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith:

Risto A. Rinne, Jr.    Reg. No. 37,055

**SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

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**SIGNATURE:**

Inventor: Joseph James Ghiringhelli    Date: 8-21-03  
Joseph James Ghiringhelli  
Residence & 1323 Middlebrook Way  
PO address: Rohnert Park, CA 94928    Citizenship: U.S.A.

ER 272 581 328 US

IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BEFORE THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ghiringhelli, Joseph James )  
Serial No. : ) Art Unit:  
Filed : ) Examiner:  
For : Deck Spacer )

SMALL ENTITY STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.27

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

NOW COMES THE APPLICANT in the patent application being  
filed concurrently herewith and avers that:

I am an independent inventor as defined by 37 CFR 9(c).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my  
own knowledge are true and all statements made on  
information and belief are believed to be true; and further  
that these statements were made with the knowledge that  
willful false statements and the like so made are punishable  
by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of  
Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful  
false statements may jeopardize the validity of the  
application or any patent issued thereon.

8-21-03  
Date Signed

Joseph James Ghiringhelli  
Joseph James Ghiringhelli  
(Applicant)

Express Mail Number: ER 272581328US